

03560.003381



PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)	
	:	Examiner: Hoan H. Tran
Yasunari WATANABE)	
	:	Group Art Unit: 2852
Application No.: 10/685,465)	
	:	Confirmation No.: 5454
Filed: October 16, 2003)	
	:	
For: IMAGE FORMATION APPARATUS)	July 8, 2005
HAVING CHARGING MEANS AND	:	
DEVELOPING AGENT CHARGING)	
MEANS	:	

Mail Stop RCE

Commissioner for Patents
Post Office Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and in accordance with the practice under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the patent documents listed on the enclosed citation Form PTO-1449.

STATEMENT/PETITION/FEE

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b), since a first Official Action has not been received in the above-identified application, neither a Statement, Petition, nor payment of a fee is required for this Information Disclosure Statement. However, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fee, which may be deemed necessary in connection with this Information Disclosure Statement to Deposit Account No. 06-1205. A duplicate of this Information Disclosure Statement is enclosed for that purpose.

REMARKS

U.S. Patent No. 6,459,872 (Komiya '872) and U.S. Patent No. 6,477,342 (Komiya '342) disclose the application of an AC voltage to a charging means. More specifically, both patents disclose the starting/ending timing of bias voltage applications. Figure 8 of Komiya '872 and Figure 10 of Komiya '342 are timing charts, which disclose the application of a conductive brush bias voltage starts after the application of a charging bias voltage has started and ends before the application of the charging bias voltage has ended.

Applicant submits neither patent discloses turning on the charging bias voltage before the area charged by the conductive brush reaches the position of coming into contact with the charging means and turning off the charging bias voltage after the area, where application of conductive brush bias voltage has ended, reaches the position of coming into contact with the charging means.

In view of the foregoing, Applicant submits that neither patent discloses the features recited in the last two paragraphs of amended Claim 1. Also, neither patent discloses the invention recited in newly added Claim 10.

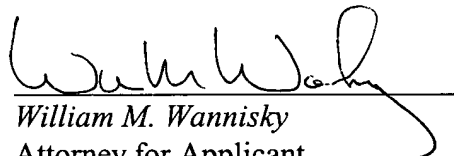
CONCLUSION

It is respectfully requested that the cited information be considered by the Examiner and that a copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 be returned indicating that such information has been considered.

Favorable consideration hereof is earnestly solicited.


Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our New York office at the address given below.

Respectfully submitted,


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FORM PTO 1449 (modified)				ATTY DOCKET NO. 03560.003381		APPLICATION NO. 10/685,465	
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE				APPLICANT Yasunari WATANABE			
LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT (Use several sheets if necessary)				FILING DATE October 16, 2003		GROUP 2852	
Submitted to the PTO: July 8, 2005							
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
		6,459,872 B1	10/01/02	Komiya, et al.	399	149	
		6,477,342 B2	11/05/02	Komiya, et al.	399	98	
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES/NO/ OR ABSTRACT
OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)							
EXAMINER				DATE CONSIDERED			

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

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